

City of Corunna
Special Council Meeting
Monday, April 23, 2001

Present: Billis, Bayless, Dumond, Hornus, Mehigh, Ockerman, Runyan.

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Jeremy Boyd, Treasurer; Gene Sanderson; Don Runyon; Gary Schooley; Dave Harvey; Bob Gilman; Judy Horton; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Billis at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Don Runyon, 563 Cary Street, stated he wanted to make sure that no tax money is put into the ball fields.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON SOFTBALL COMMISSION LEASE: Joe Sawyer explained the softball contract and advised that the revised softball commission lease now includes the Larry Frank Memorial Field. He further explained the lease submitted to council was consistent with what has been submitted over the past several years. The one issue that remains unresolved is the port-a-john issue. Some ten years ago, the city was responsible for providing two port-a-johns and that is no longer in the lease. He also explained the summer youth league also use the facility, and it might be in the city's best interest to provide a port-a-john at that location. Councilperson Bayless stated he attended the softball commission meeting on Sunday, and the question as to who should sign the lease came up. He further stated that is why the issue was brought to council. The softball commission needs the lease because they are accepting money from teams, and the commission is uncomfortable with accepting money since they cannot guarantee there will be league. He also stated he was very impressed with what he heard at the meeting. Councilperson Bayless advised the port-a-john issue was tabled in September and now the issue has come back up again. He further advised there was discussion at one of the council meetings about giving the person, who was hired to run the youth league, a key to unlock the Stu Coutts restrooms if council wanted to go that route. Councilperson Bayless also advised there was a flyer going around at the softball commission meeting about a golf scramble, and he was really impressed that the money raised at the golf scramble would be put back into the Larry Frank Memorial Field and grandstand. Councilperson Mehigh advised the city has to have restrooms at the ball fields. He asked if someone from the adult softball league could be responsible for unlocking and locking the restrooms when they are using the field. Gary Schooley advised the softball commission would have no problem with making the league director responsible for locking and unlocking the restrooms. Mayor Billis advised that Mr. Sawyer received a legal opinion from Mr. Burlingame about who should sign documents, and Mr. Burlingame's opinion could be interpreted two different ways. Mayor Billis suggested having the mayor, city manager, city clerk and city attorney sign the lease and be done with it. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the softball commission would be responsible for the Larry Frank Memorial Field on Tuesday and Thursday. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the city would be responsible for the field

on the other weekdays. Councilperson Bayless advised yes. Mr. Sawyer asked if the softball commission leases the Mitchell Fields to the youth league. Mr. Schooley advised no. Mr. Sawyer advised the softball commission is encouraging the youth league to use the Mitchell Fields more this season, but from a lease prospective, there should be something mentioned in the lease agreement that states the use of Mitchell Fields by the summer youth league is also allowable. Councilperson Ockerman asked who came up with the lease verbiage. Mr. Sawyer advised the lease has been in place for many years. Councilperson Ockerman stated he did not like the verbiage “will have control” in the lease. Mr. Sawyer advised he contacted Mr. Schooley that morning and asked him to prepare something. Councilperson Ockerman asked council if they had a problem with changing the verbiage from “the softball commission will have control of the Larry Frank Memorial Field” to “the softball commission will be responsible for the Larry Frank Memorial Field.”

Councilperson Bayless suggested changing the verbiage to “the softball commission will lease the Larry Frank Memorial Field for their use” in order to have the same language in both sentences of the agreement. Councilperson Runyan asked how the city got responsible for maintaining everything at the ball fields. Dave Harvey advised the original agreement stated the city would be responsible for the upkeep of the facility when the city accepted \$75,000 from the Mitchell family. Councilperson Bayless stated the situation was similar to the way the city received the McCurdy Park property. Councilperson Dumond stated it looked like the city was responsible for keeping the facility in good operating condition. Mayor Billis reviewed the proposed lease agreement. Councilperson Bayless advised the softball commission has indicated that some shingling needs to be done to one of the buildings at the ball field. The commission has asked the city to provide the roofing shingles, and they would do the work, which is another example of the commission’s dedication. Councilperson Ockerman asked which building needed the roofing shingles. Mr. Schooley advised the overhang that is over the concession stand. Councilperson Dumond asked if anyone had talked to Mr. Crawford. Mr. Schooley advised yes, the commission did not want to do anything that would interfere with the union. Bayless moved, Ockerman seconded to accept the initial Mitchell Softball Complex lease agreement with the softball commission as printed by changing the verbiage from “In addition the Corunna Softball Commission will have control of the Larry Frank Memorial Field located in McCurdy Park on Tuesday and Thursday and weekend tournament dates that are scheduled at Mitchell Fields for the same time period as the lease for Mitchell Fields” to “In addition the Corunna Softball Commission will lease for their use the Larry Frank Memorial Field located in McCurdy Park on Tuesday and Thursday and weekend tournament dates that are scheduled at Mitchell Fields for the same time period as the lease for Mitchell Fields” and with the addition of item number 10. “Will allow and encourage the use of the Mitchell Softball Complex and the Larry Frank Memorial Field for the summer recreation program” under the section that the Corunna Softball Commission will be responsible for. Mr. Harvey stated he has been involved with the softball commission since the beginning and many council members did not care about the facility so the commission just proceeded to do the lease on their own. Councilperson Ockerman suggested bringing the lease agreement to council every year.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Mehig, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON KINGSLEY STREET WATER MAIN: Mr. Sawyer informed council and the audience why the water main replacement was needed. He advised Capital Consultants has agreed to waive the design engineering fees. Mr. Sawyer further advised the estimated cost to replace the Kingsley Street water main is \$57,730.50. He also advised it is estimated that the project will be \$100,000 to \$120,000 under budget. Mr. Sawyer stated Perrin Construction has agreed to honor the per unit pricing on the Kingsley/McArthur project. He further stated the water main was removed from the project because the water main was supposed to be located in the grassy area, and it could be replaced at a later date. However, the existing water main is located underneath the new curb and gutters that will be placed. He also stated the new water main would be upgraded to an eight-inch water main. Mayor Billis suggested installing the water main away from the curb and gutters. Councilperson Bayless advised it would be better to install the water main anywhere but under the curb and gutters. Mr. Sawyer advised he would check out the situation. Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to direct Capital Consultants to replace the six-inch water main located on the west side of Kingsley Street with an eight-inch water main in the amount of \$57,730.50.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Mehig, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Judy Horton, 315 Dutcher Street, advised the height of McArthur Street is higher than the sidewalk in front of the school and asked if the street would be cut down when the street is blacktopped. Mr. Sawyer advised yes approximately one foot to eighteen inches in some places. The street will have curb and gutters so the top of the curb will be at yard level. Ms. Horton advised council that one of the historical commission members belongs to a custom truck show, and the person wanted to know if the historical village could accommodate a car show. She asked if there would be any problems with parking the vehicles on the grass in the park. Councilperson Ockerman asked if additional parking would be needed with all of the parking areas the park has. Ms. Horton advised there could be up to 100 vehicles parked in the open area south of the church. She further advised there would be a gate and an admission charge. The truck show could bring a lot of people in the park, and the truck show would be held sometime in August. Councilperson Dumond advised he did not think council was against anything that would generate revenue and bring people into the park. Ms. Horton advised the person she spoke with was worried about being ticketed for parking on the grass. Mayor Billis advised Ms. Horton to bring the issue back to council for consideration.

Bob Gilman, 597 Crestview Drive, asked if there were any other plans for street resurfacing this year. Mayor Billis advised there are many variables that need to be taken into consideration because there are many streets that are cracked and damaged. He further advised he wished the city had the money to fix every street. Mr. Gilman stated he was referring to the street repair list. Mayor Billis stated he knew that, but the city still needs to fine-tune the list. Councilperson Ockerman stated Mr. Crawford looked at Crestview Drive

when the flooding occurred, and he was sure that Mr. Crawford was looking at placing a bigger cylinder under the street when the street is paved. Mr. Gilman stated the main problem is where the water drains by the railroad tracks. There is a creek that runs east and west that needs to be cleaned out.

ADJOURN: Bayless moved to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Mehig, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 7:55 p.m.

DR. JAMES BILLIS, MAYOR

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK